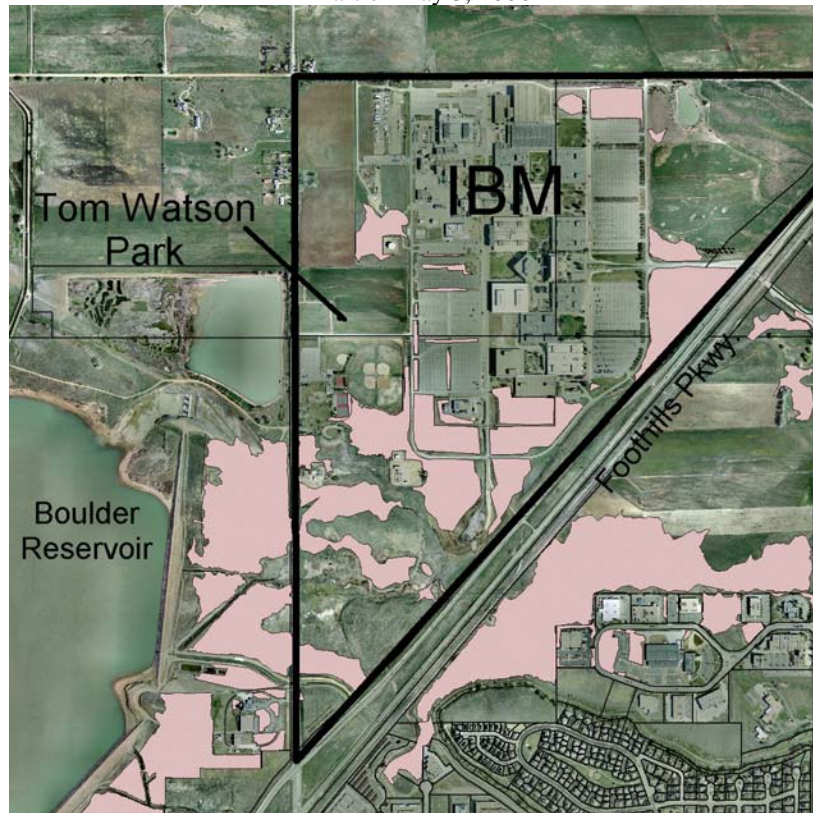


Colony #1a

IBM/TOM WATSON PARK SITE

Draft of May 3, 2006



Current Uses of Properties

- Private/Commercial-IBM
- Tom Watson Park site leased to City of Boulder - ball fields, tennis/basketball courts and play ground
- City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Conservation Easement on southern portion of site with no public access
- Adjacent OSMP colonies were acquired after the Black-tailed Prairie Dog Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) was adopted have not been designated.

Size & Condition of Colony

- Total size of colony: 80 acres
- Area is highly visible from major roadway and IBM staff
- All colonies are bounded by buildings, agricultural fields, major roadways, recreational fields and paved parking areas.
- IBM colonies and colonies on Open Space and Mountain Parks Conservation Easement comprise 73.35 acres
 - Dense and fragmented by developed areas
 - Vegetation is mostly non-native
 - Area is moderately consistent with the ecological value of nearby Habitat Conservation Areas, with the exception of the areas interfacing development and in the park site
 - Colony also has a potential educational value.
- 6.22 acres-Tom Watson Park
 - Manicured turf and landscaping/not prairie dog habitat

Current and Future Conflicts

- On-going encroachment into mechanical systems
- Destruction of landscaped areas
- Encroachment onto adjacent Tom Watson Park playground and ball fields, loss of playing fields-public safety issues
- Perceived public health issues

Mitigation Opportunities

- Barriers- horizontal and vertical, used in conjunction with other techniques.
- Hardscaping-options and costs are currently being researched.
- Determine sustainable population and maintain.
- Removal from TWP-costs variable depending on removal technique.
- Synthetic turf on ball fields-costs currently being researched.
- Find other ball field locations-options being researched.
- Consider revisions to Land Use Code for landscaping requirements.

Potential Management Options

On the OSMP conservation easement:

- Management practices will be established in the revised Prairie Dog Habitat Conservation Plan.

On IBM property:

- Remove/exclude from landscaped areas and areas with mechanical systems
- Population monitoring and maintenance in the other areas
- Barriers

On Tom Watson Park:

- Remove and exclude from ball fields and developed park